



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

### Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

### La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

### Meeting Minutes

#### Call to Order and Introductions

The regular meeting of the First Things First – La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council was held **August 27, 2009** at 9:00 a.m. at the Parker Public Library at 1001 S. Navajo Avenue, Parker AZ.

Chairman Allsbrooks called the meeting to order at 9:11a.m. Guests were invited to introduce themselves.

#### Members present:

William Allsbrooks, Alisa Burroughs, Riley Frei, Lenore Knudtson, Betsy Lewis, Vijette Saari, Nancy Mongeau, Debra Weger, Jose Garcia

#### Members absent:

Melissa Howell

#### Call to the Public

None.

#### Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included the minutes of the July 23rd, 2009. Member Mongeau made a motion to approve the minutes on the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Garcia. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

#### Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on this Agenda

Member Mongeau declared a conflict of interest regarding item #5 of the agenda Preventive Health RFGA (FTF-RC006-10-0076-00).

#### Preventive Health RFGA (FTF-RC006-10-0076-00): Discussion & Possible Approval of Review Committee Recommendations

Member Frei made a motion to approve recommendations for the Preventive Health RFGA (FTF-RC006-10-0076-00) and forward to the State Board. The motion was seconded by Member Saari. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

#### Discussion of 2010 Regional Needs and Assets Report

Coordinator Beckett updated Council Members on the Request for Proposal for the Needs and Assets Report that was released on August 18, 2009, closing October 1, 2009. Statewide administrative funding will be used to provide every Regional Council with a Needs and Assets Report (165 consultant hours). There is a four member Review Committee that will evaluate the proposals. If any Council Member is interested in serving on that committee please inform Coordinator Beckett. The Review Committee will review all incoming proposals and create an approved vender list. Regional Councils will then be presented a list of qualified vendors to

select a final contractor to complete their Regional Needs and Assets Report. Coordinator Beckett requested guidance from the Council on what process the Council wants to use to select a vender and how to they want to use the \$30,000 in regional funds allocated for the Needs and Assets Report.

Chair Allsbrooks suggested we should focus additional data collection efforts on getting a handle on smaller communities.

Chair Allsbrooks suggested adding 60 additional hours for compilation of regionally available data, 60 additional hours for collection of focus group data and key informant interviews, 40 additional hours to present the report to focus groups and key informants and incorporate feedback into the final draft; and 40 hours to review and edit the report with the Regional Partnership Council.

Member Frei moved to use funding for the Regional Needs and Assets Report to purchase an additional 60 hours for compilation of regionally available data, 60 hours for collection of focus group data and key informant interviews, 40 hours to present the report to focus groups and key informants and incorporate feedback into the final draft; and 40 hours to review and edit the report with the Regional Partnership Council. The motion was seconded by Member Garcia.

Coordinator Beckett clarified that the emphasis for the additional data collection will be: better data on children in outlying areas (smaller communities); better information on infant and toddler mental health, and better data on children in the foster care and the child welfare system. An example of the type of focus groups the Council would like to have is parents with children age birth to three with special needs in various communities in the outlying areas, such as Littlefield, Dolan Springs, Quartzsite and Bouse.

The motion carried with a unanimous vote by members present.

#### **First things First Dollars at Work: Update on Regionally Funded Programs**

Coordinator Beckett stated that under the competitive bid-waiver the Regional Council allocated \$484,000 to support home visitation programs that prevent child abuse and neglect. Four speakers from agencies providing these services made presentations.

Angelica Pichardo from the Mohave County Department of Public Health First Steps Home Visiting Program; Pauline Haas-Vaughn from the Child and Family Resources Healthy Families Program; Rich Miers from the Interagency Council Healthy Families and Fatherhood Now Programs; and Sheryl Derby from the Arizona's Children Association Bright Star Program updated the Council on the progress of their programs.

Chair Allsbrooks thanked the presenters for all the work they are doing.

#### **Coordinator Report**

Coordinator Beckett reviewed Cover Sheet for FY2011 Regional Allocation – REVISED that was approved by the State Board Tuesday, August 26, at their meeting in Flagstaff, AZ. La Paz/Mohave Regional allocation will diminish by 5 percent in SFY 2011. This is based on 2009 Census Bureau report showing the population of children birth to five in the region decreased by 1.1 percent.

Coordinator Beckett presented Council Members Weger, Mongeau and Garcia with a Certificate of Recognition for one year of service as Council Members to the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council.

Coordinator Beckett revisited the Needs and Assets discussion to determine a process to select a vender. Gary Arnold, Regional Manager, explained that the Review Committee would review a list of vendors, and interview select vendors face to face or telephonically. Members Mongeau, Weger, Burroughs, and Saari volunteered to be on the Review Committee to select a vender for the Needs and Assets Report.

Coordinator Beckett announced the State Board approved recommendations for the expanding access to child care, professional development, and mental health strategies at the last State Board meeting. Terri Holloway from Health Choice was appointed to fill the vacant At-Large position on the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council. Arrangements are in place for T.E.A.C.H. scholars to take coursework at Mohave Community College. T.E.A.C.H. applications are available online through the Association for Supportive Care website.

Member Frei requested an update on the number of accepted T.E.A.C.H. applications in the region.

Coordinator Beckett mentioned September 22, 2009 the State Board will hold their meeting in Kingman at the Mohave County Public Library. Meeting information will be sent to members and Council Members are encouraged to attend. Also, there will be a Chairs/Vice-Chairs meeting in Phoenix on September 10, 2009. Chair Allsbrooks is unable to attend. If another Member interested in attending they can contact Coordinator Beckett to make the arrangements.

Chair Allsbrooks requested next month's agenda include an update on available funding for SFY 2010 and discussion on allocation of remaining funds.

Vice Chair Knudtson announced First Things First Regional Partnerships are invited to a Best for Babies Seminar on Court Teams for Infants and Toddlers on October 23, 2009 in Tempe and asked if funds are available for Council Members to attend. Coordinator Beckett agreed to follow-up and forward information to the Council.

**Adjourn**

Member Garcia made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Member Saari. Motion to adjourn carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

There being no further business, Chairman Allsbrooks adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

**Minutes NOT approved**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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**Della Gray, Administrative Assistant**

**Approved by:**

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**Williams Allsbrooks, Chair**